

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7396

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

CINCPAC

S E C R E T MANILA 10214

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RP, VN

SUBJECT: PHILIPPINE NEGOTIATIONS WITH VIETNAMESE

REF: (A) MANILA 10213 NOTAL, (B) MANILA 10211

1. DURING EXECUTIVE SESSION OF U.S.-PHILIPPINES MILITARY FACILITIES NEGOTIATING PANELS JULY 13, I ASKED UNDER SECRETARY INGLES TO PROVIDE BRIEFING ON NEGOTIATIONS WITH VIETNAMESE VISITING MISSION WHICH RESULTED IN JULY 12 AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH RP-SRV DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS. I

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SIAD THERE HAD BEEN REPORTS THAT U.S. MILITARY FACILITIES

HAD BEEN DISCUSSED AND WE WERE NATURALLY INTERESTED IN KNOWING WHETHER AGREEMENT IMPINGED IN ANY WAY ON SUBJECTS UNDER NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN OUR TWO GOVERNMENTS.

2. IN APPARENTLY STRAIGHTFORWARD MANNER, INGLES GAVE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT OF NEGOTIATIONS. HE REFERRED BACK TO EARLIER DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN GOP AND DRV IN PARIS AND TO SUBSEQUENT MANGILA FIASCO. HE POINTED OUT THAT MANGILA HAD SIGNED A "COMMUNIQUE" WHICH STIPULATED (A) THAT U.S. WOULD NOT BE PERMITTED TO USE MILITARY BASES IN PHILIPPINES TO ATTACK VIETNAM, AND (B) THAT MILITARY EQUIPMENT SUPPLIED TO GVN WHICH HAD ARRIVED IN PHILIPPINES WOULD BE RETURNED TO PRG.

3. INGLES SAID THAT, DESPITE WIDELY PUBLICIZED "FOUR PRINCIPLES" PUBLISHED IN HANOI JULY 5, PHAM HIEN HAD OPENED DISCUSSIONS WITH GOP BY TABLING MANGILA COMMUNIQUE AND SUGGESTING ITS ADOPTION. GOP HAD REFUSED. SRV THEN PROPOSED THAT, IN ADDITION TO EXPLICIT AND OVERT STATEMENT OF FOUR PRINCIPLES, TWO GOVERNMENTS SHOULD SIGN SECRET DOCUMENT WHICH WOULD CONTAIN PROHIBITION AGAINST U.S. USE OF PHIL BASES TO ATTACK VIETNAM. GOP AGAIN REFUSED. THEN SRV PROPOSED TO LEAVE GOP A SECRET "UNDERSTANDING," ON A UNILATERAL BASIS, WHICH WOULD STATE THAT SRV UNDERSTANDS THE PHILS WOULD NOT PERMIT U.S. TO USE BASES TO ATTACK VIETNAM. AGAIN GOP REFUSED. FINALLY, SRV PROPOSED BASE DIPLOMATIC REALTIONS ON FOUR PRINCIPLES AS WELL AS "PREVIOUS TALKS" BETWEEN TWO GOVERNMENTS. PHILS SAID THEY WOULD ACCEPT "PREVIOUS TALKS IN PARIS." SRV THEN REPORTEDLY DROPPED THE ENTIRE SUBJECT AND SETTLED FOR FOUR PRINCIPLES ALONE.

4. ON QUESTION OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT, SRV TACTICS WERE REPORTEDLY LESS PERSISTENT. ALTHOUGH VIETS RAISED ISSUE, PHILS TURNED IT ASIDE BY REFERENCE TO THEIR 1975 NOTE IN WHICH THEY SAID SUBJECT SHOULD BE RESOLVED BETWEEN DRV AND US. WHILE SUBJECT NOT RPT NOT FURTHER PURSUED, INGLES SAID SRV DID NOT EXPLICITLY DROP ITS CLAIM.

5. ON ALL OTHER MATTERS, SUCH AS NON-INTERVENTION,
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SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES, ETC., SRV MISSION TOOK PAINS TO NOTE THAT WORDING HAD BEEN BORROWED FROM ASEAN DOCUMENTS AND DECLARATIONS AND WAS THEREFORE UNASSAILABLE. INGLES SAID GOP ACCEPTED THIS VIEW AND INDICATED ONLY POINTS WHICH HAD BEEN DISCUSSED IN DETAIL WERE THOSE AFFECTING US USE OF BASES.

6. COMMENT: IT APPEARS THAT SRV PUT UP GREAT SHOW OF

SEEMING TO INSIST ON FORMER MANGILA LANGUAGE, BUT, IN
PRACTICE DROPPING BACK TO PRE-COOKED FOUR PRINCIPLES,
THEREBY LEAVING GOP WITH IMPRESSION IT HAD GAINED GREAT
DIPLOMATIC VICTORY BY ACHIEVING WHAT SRV HAD BEEN PREPARED
TO ACCEPT IN ADVANCE. ALTHOUGH THE MATTER OF US BASES
SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN HANDLED IN A MANNER WHICH OUT TO PROVE
SATISFACTORY TO OUR INTERESTS, THE EQUIPMENT ISSUE IS
PROBABLY FAR FROM DEAD. I WOULD EXPECT IT TO SURFACE NEXT
AGAIN WHEN FILIPINOS SEEK TO EXTRACT SOME OF THEIR
NATIONALS FROM SAIGON AND OTHER SOUTHERN CITIES.
SULLIVAN

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